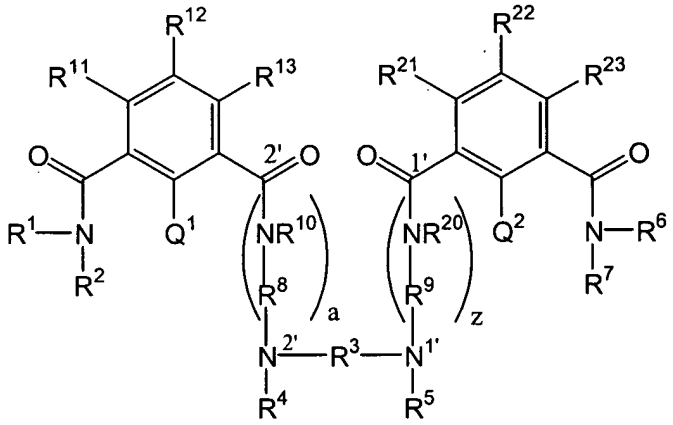
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the application by amending claims 5, 6, 8, 10-19, 21, 25-27, 30, 36, 37, 46, 48-49, and 61 and canceling claims 9, 10 and 47.

**1-4.** (Cancelled)

**5.** (Presently Amended) A compound having a structure according to Formula I:



(I)

wherein,

$R^1$, $R^2$, $R^4$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$ and $R^{20}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, ~~and~~ substituted alkyl ~~groups~~, and polyether,

wherein, two or more of $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^4$, $R^5$, $R^6$, and $R^7$ ~~when $R^3$ is substituted alkyl, a substituent of $R^3$~~ are optionally adjoined by at least one linker moiety to form at least one ring;

$R^3$, $R^8$ and $R^9$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, ~~and~~ substituted aryl ~~groups~~, and polyether;

$R^{11}$, $R^{12}$, $R^{13}$, $R^{21}$, $R^{22}$ and $R^{23}$ are members independently selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, H, $—NR^{14}R^{15}$, $—NO_2$, $—OR^{16}$, $—COOR^{17}$,

wherein, $R^{14}$, $R^{15}$, $R^{16}$ and $R^{17}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl and substituted alkyl, wherein $R^{12}$ can optionally form a ring with $R^{11}$, $R^{13}$ or both, and $R^{22}$ can optionally form a

ring with $R^{21}$, $R^{23}$ or both, said rings being members independently selected from the group of ring systems consisting of cyclic alkyl, substituted cyclic alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, ~~heterocyclyl~~ and ~~saturated~~ heterocyclyl ring systems; and

$Q^1$ is —$OR^{18}$;

$Q^2$ is —$OR^{19}$,

wherein $R^{18}$ and $R^{19}$ are members independently selected from H, an enzymatically labile group, a hydrolytically labile group and a single negative charge;

a is 0 or 1, with the proviso that when a is 0, $N^{2'}$ is covalently attached directly to carbonyl group 2'.

z is 0 or 1, with the proviso that when z is 0, $N^{1'}$ is covalently attached directly to carbonyl group 1'.

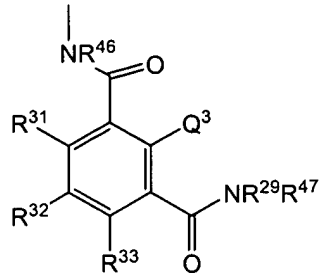
**6.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein z is 0.

**7.** (Original) The compound according to claim 5, wherein $R^3$ is a linear $C_1$-$C_6$ hydrocarbon.

**8.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 6, wherein

$R^8$ is $(CH_2)_P$;

$R^4$ is an alkyl group substituted with a moiety having a structure according to Formula II:




(II)

wherein,

$R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, ~~and~~ substituted alkyl, and polyether, ~~groups~~, wherein, two or more of $R^2$, $R^7$ and $R^{29}$ are optionally adjoined by at least one linker moiety to form at least one ring;

$R^{31}$, $R^{32}$ and $R^{33}$ are members independently selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, H, —$NR^{24}R^{25}$, —$NO_2$, —$OR^{26}$, —$COOR^{27}$,

wherein, $R^{24}$, $R^{25}$, $R^{26}$ and $R^{27}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl and substituted alkyl, wherein $R^{32}$ can optionally form a ring with $R^{31}$, $R^{33}$ or both, said rings being members independently selected from the group of ring systems consisting of cyclic alkyl, substituted cyclic alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, ~~heterocyclyl~~ and ~~saturated~~ heterocyclyl ring systems;

$R^3$ is $(CH_2)_X$;

$Q^3$ is —$OR^{28}$, wherein $R^{28}$ is a member selected from H, an enzymatically labile group, a hydrolytically labile group and a single negative charge;

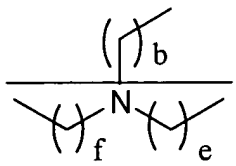
P and X are members independently selected from the group consisting of the integers from 1 to 5, inclusive;

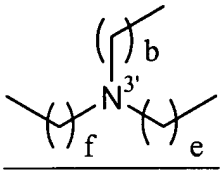
and z is 0.

**9.** (Cancelled)

**10.** (Cancelled)

**11.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim ~~10~~ 8, wherein $R^2$, $R^6$ and $R^{29}$ are adjoined by a single linker moiety, wherein said linker moiety has a structure according to Formula III :



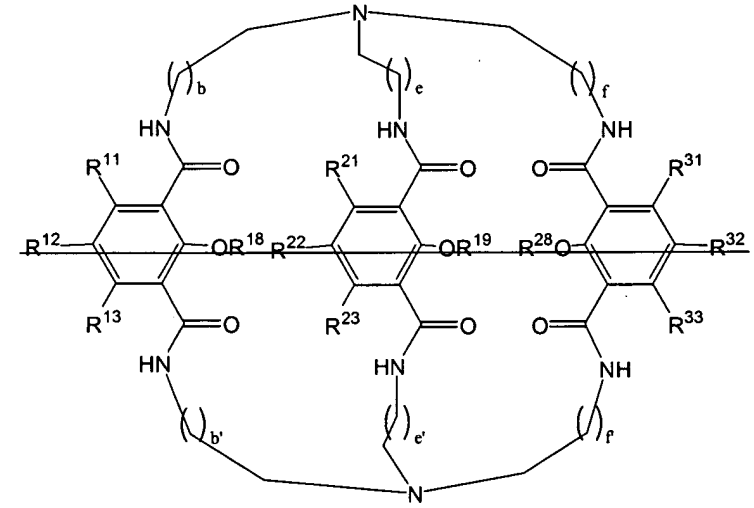


(III)

wherein,

b, e and f are members independently selected from the group consisting of the integers from 1 to 5, inclusive.

**12.** (Presently Amended) A compound according to claim 11, having a structure according to Formula IV:

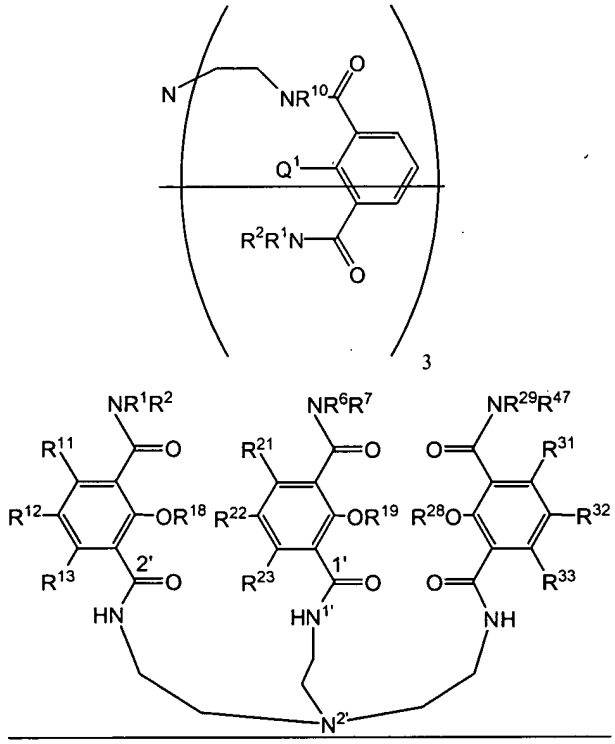


(IV)

wherein,

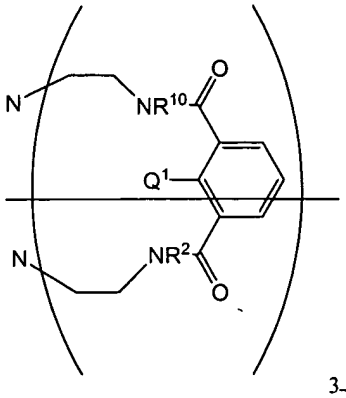
b, b', e, e', f and f' are members independently selected from the group consisting of the integers from 1 to 5, inclusive.

**13.** (Presently Amended) A compound according to claim 8, having a structure according to Formula V:



(V).

**14.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim ~~13~~12, wherein b, b', e, e', f and f' are 1 ~~having a structure according to Formula VI:~~




3 ~~3~~ ~~(VI)~~.

**15.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 8 wherein, $R^1$, $R^2$, ~~$R^3$~~, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$~~, ~~$R^9$~~, $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl and $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ substituted alkyl; and

$R^3$ is a member independently selected from the group consisting of $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl and $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ substituted alkyl.

**16.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 15 wherein, $R^1$, $R^2$, ~~$R^3$~~, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$~~, ~~$R^9$~~, $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl and $C_2$ to $C_6$ substituted alkyl; and

$R^3$ is a member selected from the group consisting of $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl and $C_2$ to $C_6$ substituted alkyl.

**17.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 8, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, ~~$R^3$~~, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$~~, ~~$R^9$~~, $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, aryl, substituted aryl and combinations thereof; and

$R^3$ is a member selected from the group consisting of aryl, substituted aryl and combinations thereof.

**18.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 8, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, ~~$R^3$~~, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$~~, ~~$R^9$~~, $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl substituted with polycyclic aryl groups; and

$R^3$ is an alkyl substituted with polycyclic aryl groups.

**19.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 8, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$, $R^9$,~~ $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof is a primary alkyl amine.

**20.** (Original) The compound according to claim 19, wherein said primary alkyl amine is a $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl chain bearing an amine moiety at the ω-position.

**21.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 20, wherein said primary alkyl amine ~~as~~ is a $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl chain bearing an amine moiety at the ω-position.

**22.** (Original) The compound according to claim 8, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^8$, $R^9$, $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof is a polyether.

**23.** (Original) The compound according to claim 22, wherein said polyether is a member selected from ethylene glycol, ethylene glycol oligomers and combinations thereof, wherein said polyether has a molecular weight of from about 60 daltons to about 10,000 daltons.

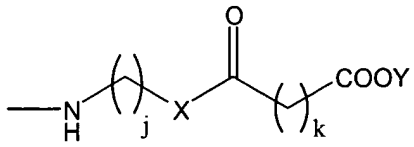
**24.** (Original) The compound according to claim 23, wherein said polyether has a molecular weight of from about 100 daltons to about 1,000 daltons.

**25.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 8, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$, $R^9$,~~ $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ comprise a reactive group for conjugating said compound to a member selected from the group consisting of molecules and surfaces.

**26.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 8, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, ~~$R^3$,~~ $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$, $R^9$,~~ $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof are members

selected from ω-carboxyl alkyl groups, ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl groups and combinations thereof.

**27.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 26, wherein said ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl group has a structure according to Formula VII:




(VII)

wherein,

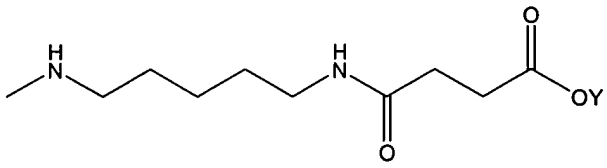
X is a member selected from O, S and $NR^{50}$, wherein

$R^{50}$ is a member selected from H, alkyl and substituted alkyl;

Y is a member selected from H and a single negative charge; and

j ~~an~~ and k are members independently selected from the group consisting of integers from 1 to 18.

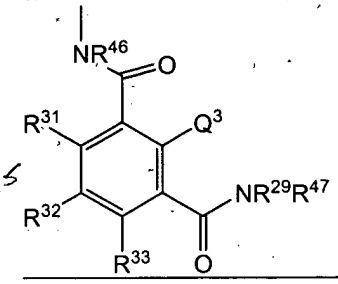
**28.** (Original) The compound according to claim 27, wherein said ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl group has a structure according to Formula VIII:




(VIII).

**29.** (Original) The compound according to claim 8, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are H.

**30.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 5, wherein $R^4$ is an alkyl group substituted with a group having a structure according to Formula II:




(II)

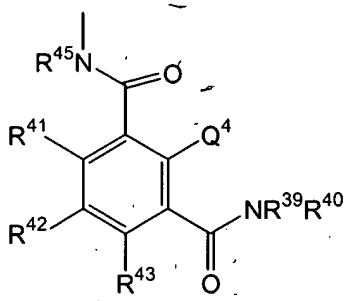
wherein,

$R^{29}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, and polyether, wherein, two or more of $R^1$, $R^6$ and $R^{29}$ are optionally adjoined by at least one linker moiety to form at least one ring;

$R^{31}$, $R^{32}$ and $R^{33}$ are members independently selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, H, —$NR^{24}R^{25}$, —$NO_2$, —$OR^{26}$, —$COOR^{27}$, wherein, $R^{24}$, $R^{25}$, $R^{26}$ and $R^{27}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl and substituted alkyl, wherein $R^{32}$ can optionally form a ring with $R^{31}$, $R^{33}$ or both, said rings being members independently selected from the group of ring systems consisting of cyclic alkyl, substituted cyclic alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, and heterocyclyl ring systems; and

$Q^3$ is —$OR^{28}$, wherein $R^{28}$ is a member selected from H, an enzymatically labile group, a hydrolytically labile group and a single negative charge; and

$R^5$ is an alkyl group substituted with a moiety having a structure according to Formula IX:




(IX)

wherein,

$R^{39}$, $R^{40}$ and $R^{45}$ are members independently selected from alkyl, ~~and~~ substituted alkyl, and polyether, ~~groups; and~~ wherein, two or more of $R^1$, $R^6$ and $R^{39}$ are optionally adjoined by at least one linker moiety to form at least one ring;

$R^{41}$, $R^{42}$ and $R^{43}$ are members independently selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, H, —$NR^{34}R^{35}$, —$NO_2$, —$OR^{36}$, —$COOR^{37}$,

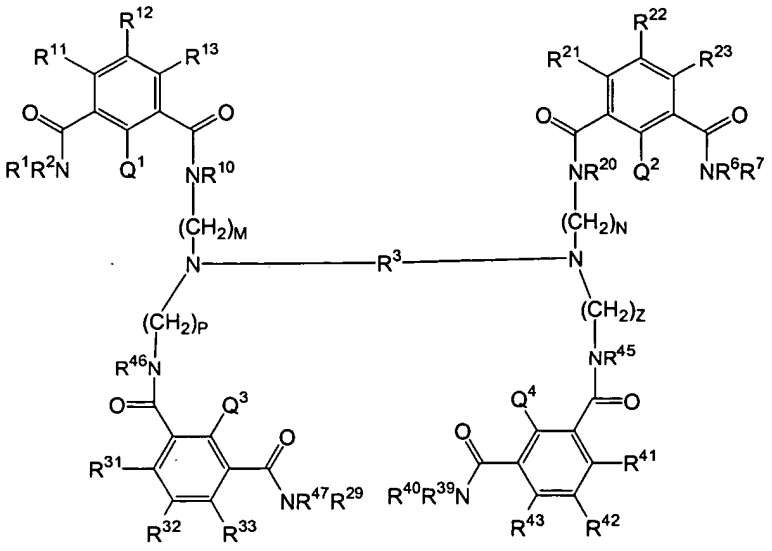
wherein, $R^{34}$, $R^{35}$, $R^{36}$ and $R^{37}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl and substituted alkyl, wherein $R^{42}$ can optionally form a ring with $R^{41}$, $R^{43}$ or both, said rings being members independently selected from the group of ring systems consisting of cyclic alkyl, substituted cyclic alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, ~~heterocyclyl~~ and ~~saturated~~ heterocyclyl ring systems; and

$Q^4$ is —$OR^{38}$, respectively, wherein, $R^{38}$ is a member selected from is a member selected from H and a single negative charge.

B1

B1C

**31.** (Original) A compound according to claim 30, having a structure according to Formula X:



(X)

wherein,

M, N, P and Z are members independently selected from the group consisting of the integers between 1 and 5, inclusive.

**32.** (Original) The compound according to claim 31, wherein, $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^8$, $R^9$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl and $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ substituted alkyl.

**33.** (Original) The compound according to claim 32 wherein, $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^8$, $R^9$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl and $C_2$ to $C_6$ substituted alkyl.

**34.** (Original) The compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^8$, $R^9$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of aryl, substituted aryl and combinations thereof.

**35.** (Original) The compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^3$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^8$, $R^9$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl substituted with polycyclic aryl groups.

**36.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 31, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$, ~~$R^8$, $R^9$,~~ $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof is a primary alkyl amine.

**37.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim ~~31~~ 36, wherein said primary alkyl amine ~~as~~ is a $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl chain bearing an amine moiety at the ω-position.

**38.** (Original) The compound according to claim 37, wherein said primary alkyl amine as a $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl chain bearing an amine moiety at the ω-position.

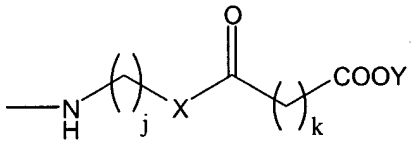
**39.** (Original) The compound according to claim 31, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof is a polyether.

**40.** (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein said polyether is a member selected from ethylene glycol, ethylene glycol oligomers and combinations thereof, wherein said polyether has a molecular weight of from about 60 daltons to about 10,000 daltons.

**41.** (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein said polyether has a molecular weight of from about 100 daltons to about 1,000 daltons.

**42.** (Original) The compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof are members selected from ω-carboxyl alkyl groups, ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl groups and combinations thereof.

**43.** (Original) The compound according to claim 42, wherein said ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl group has a structure according to Formula VII:



(VII)

wherein,

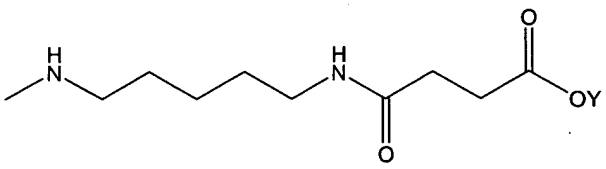
X is a member selected from O, S and $NR^{50}$, wherein

$R^{50}$ is a member selected from H, alkyl and substituted alkyl;

Y is a member selected from H and a single negative charge; and

j an k are members independently selected from the group consisting of integers from 1 to 18.

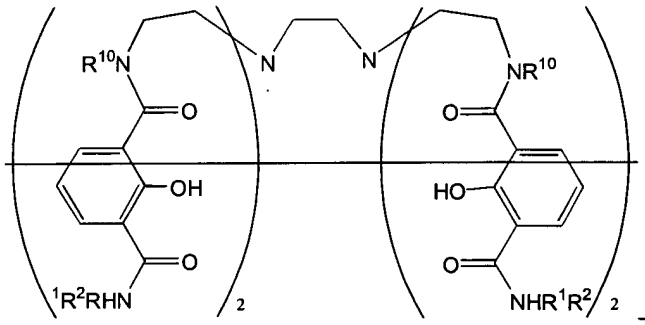
**44.** (Original) The compound according to claim 43, wherein said ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl group has a structure according to Formula VIII:



(VIII).

**45.** ~~(~~Original) The compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^6$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{29}$, $R^{39}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$ and $R^{47}$ are H.

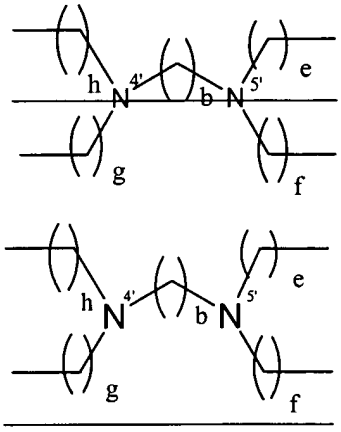
**46.** (Presently Amended) A compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^3$ is $-(CH_2)_2-$ ~~having a structure according to Formula XI:~~



~~(XI)~~.

**47.** (Cancelled)

**48.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim ~~47~~ 30, wherein $R^1$, $R^6$, $R^{29}$ and $R^{39}$ are adjoined by a single linker moiety, wherein said single linker moiety has a structure according to Formula XII:

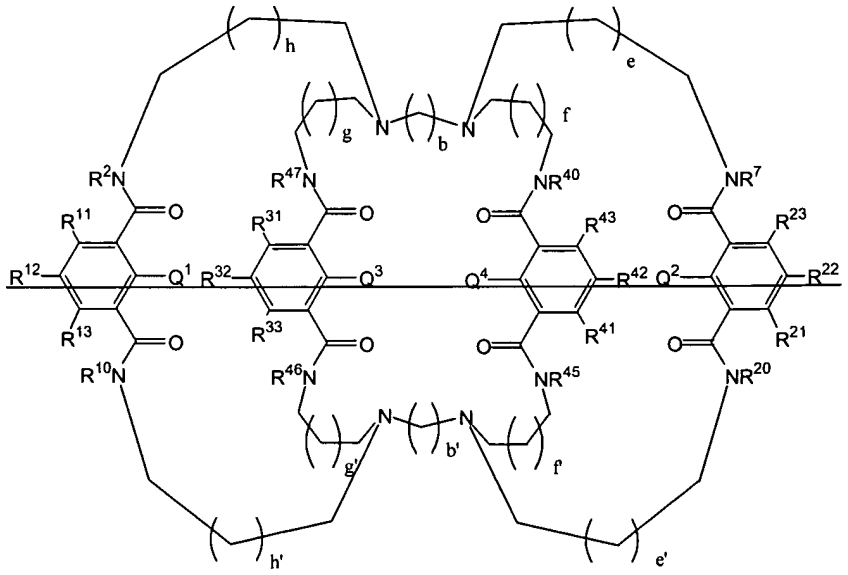


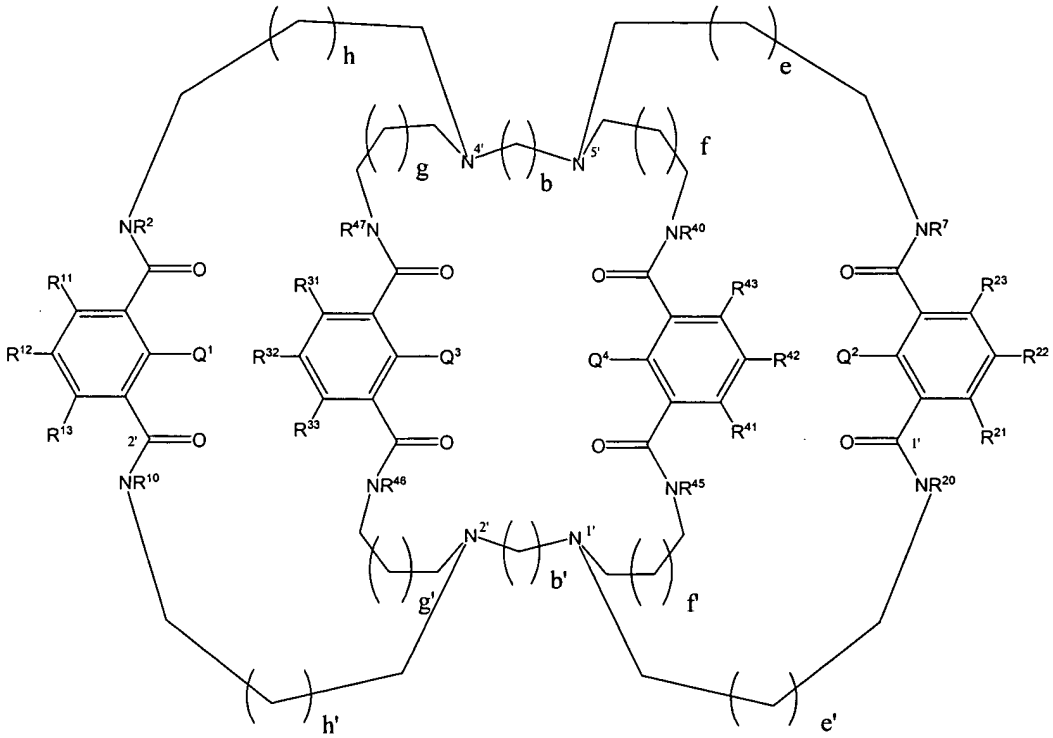
(XII)

wherein,

b, e, f, g and h are members independently selected from the numbers between 1 and 5, inclusive.

**49.** (Presently Amended) A compound according to claim 48, having a structure according to Formula XIII:





(XIII)

wherein,

~~$R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, and substituted alkyl;~~

~~$R^{11}$, $R^{12}$, $R^{13}$, $R^{21}$, $R^{22}$, $R^{23}$, $R^{31}$, $R^{32}$, $R^{33}$, $R^{41}$, $R^{42}$ and $R^{43}$ are members independently selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, H, $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-NO_2$, $-OR^{12}$, $-COOR^{13}$, or two or more of $R^5$, $R^6$ and $R^7$ are joined to form a ring system, which is a member selected from cyclic alkyl, substituted cyclic alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heterocyclyl and saturated heterocyclyl systems;~~

$Q^1$, $Q^2$, $Q^3$ and $Q^4$ are $OR^{18}$, $OR^{19}$, $OR^{28}$, $OR^{38}$, respectively, wherein, $R^{18}$, $R^{19}$, $R^{28}$ and $R^{38}$ are members independently selected from H, and a single negative charge;

b and b' are members independently selected from the group consisting of the integers from 1 to 5, inclusive; and

e, e', f, f', g, g', h and h' are members independently selected from the group consisting of numbers from 0 to 3.

**50.** (Original) The compound according to claim 49 wherein, $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl and $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ substituted alkyl.

**51.** (Original) The compound according to claim 50 wherein, $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl and $C_2$ to $C_6$ substituted alkyl.

**52.** (Original) The compound according to claim 49, wherein $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of aryl, substituted aryl and combinations thereof.

**53.** (Original) The compound according to claim 52, wherein $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ are members independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl substituted with polycyclic aryl groups.

**54.** (Original) The compound according to claim 49, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof is a primary alkyl amine.

**55.** (Original) The compound according to claim 54, wherein said primary alkyl amine as a $C_1$ to $C_{10}$ alkyl chain bearing an amine moiety at the ω-position.

**56.** (Original) The compound according to claim 55, wherein said primary alkyl amine as a $C_2$ to $C_6$ alkyl chain bearing an amine moiety at the ω-position.

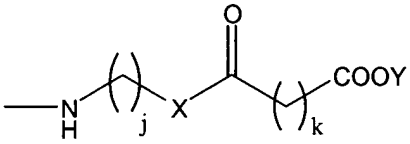
**57.** (Original) The compound according to claim 49, wherein a member selected from the group consisting of $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof is a polyether.

**58.** (Original) The compound according to claim 57, wherein said polyether is a member selected from ethylene glycol, ethylene glycol oligomers and combinations thereof, wherein said polyether has a molecular weight of from about 60 daltons to about 10,000 daltons.

**59.** (Original) The compound according to claim 58, wherein said polyether has a molecular weight of from about 100 daltons to about 1,000 daltons.

**60.** (Original) The compound according to claim 49, wherein $R^2$, $R^7$, $R^{10}$, $R^{20}$, $R^{40}$, $R^{45}$, $R^{46}$, and $R^{47}$ and combinations thereof are members selected from ω-carboxyl alkyl groups, ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl groups and combinations thereof.

**61.** (Presently Amended) The compound according to claim 60, wherein said ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl group has a structure according to Formula VII:




(VII)

wherein,

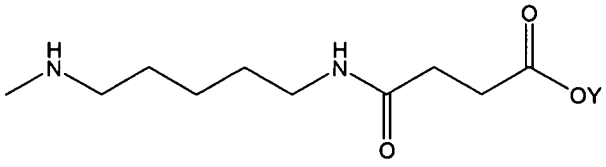
X is a member selected from O, S and $NR^{50}$, wherein

$R^{50}$ is a member selected from H, alkyl and substituted alkyl;

Y is a member selected from H and a single negative charge; and

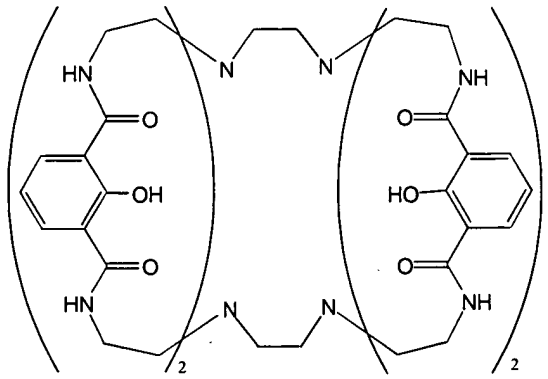
j ~~an~~ and k are members independently selected from the group consisting of integers from 1 to 18.

**62.** (Original) The compound according to claim 61, wherein said ω-carboxyl substituted alkyl group has a structure according to Formula VIII:




(VIII).

**63.** (Previously Amended) The compound according to claim 49, having a structure according to Formula XIV:




(XIV).

**64-123.** (Cancelled)